

President's Message

The Reverend Bill Brockman, President, Board of Directors

Many of you have experienced the renewal at the ECOC with the new kitchen in the Shaw House. Our plan is to remodel and improve all of the facilities over time as funds become available. The next big project is to install an elevator, improve some bathrooms and make over the kitchen in the Bird-Werner and be ready for the 2011 season. Monies raised as a result of the Johnston's Challenge Grant were to help pay a large portion of this project, but at this point it seems that we will be short on achieving our goal of raising \$100,000 in 2010. We made a promise to you and we intend to keep it; however, we need your help to finish this phase of fund-raising.

We are near the end of the Johnston Challenge Grant, and at the moment it seems that we will short by approximately \$20,000 in our giving, which means that we will not receive an additional \$20,000 from the grant. Many of you have already been very generous in making contributions, while some of our very good friends have yet to donate. We are appealing to all who call the ECOC their summer home to step up once again and make another gift or to make an initial contribution. If 100 people will give \$200, we will complete the challenge. You'll find complete information about making a donation in Rev. Bob Boell's article on page 2.



The Board of Directors has been operating on the principle that we will pay for the remodeling with monies in hand. The construction costs in the first phase were much higher than any of us had imagined. It ended up that remodeling wonderful old, old buildings meant having to deal with unexpected problems such as replacing three of the four foundation walls and the floor in the Shaw before the remodeling could begin. Construction costs for Phase One were slightly higher than funds received in our Capital Campaign so there were no funds left over from our initial giving.

We are getting bids for the elevator, stair tower, and modifications to the Bird-Werner, including relocating some bathrooms plus reconfiguring the bathroom on the second floor of Shaw. We can afford this phase if we successfully complete the challenge grant. Please consider giving. ■

Elevator Plan Completed

Ed Johnston and Rick Schaeffer

Registered architect Bill Laubscher, retired builder Ted First, and structural engineer Paul Potter, who have all volunteered their time to the ECOC during our capital improvements efforts, have completed the design for the ECOC elevator. It will be five feet wide and six feet deep, and will be located between the Bird-Werner and Westervelt buildings. The design for a stair tower to be placed between the same buildings is also completed. This will greatly enhance the safety of the buildings. Also designed are additional public areas, including a handicap bath, on the Bird-Werner kitchen level. The elevator will initially access all floors of the Bird-Werner building, and will be easily accessible with no required stairs from the Bird-Werner and Shaw kitchens. Elevator access to the Westervelt will be added in a later phase of the project.

Bids have been received from builders for this work. At this point the property committee has recommendations to bring before the ECOC Board of Directors for approval.

Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to improve these delicate old buildings, to ensure that they remain available as affordable housing to allow future generations to be uplifted by the Chautauqua experience. ■

Managers Report Busy Season

Kurt and Kathy Doerflinger



As the trees go from green to bright orange, gold, burgundy, and crimson red, and the air gets crisp, an amazing hush falls over Chautauqua. The buildings are taking on a different look as they are tucked under their winter blankets (canvas cocoons) for a long winter's nap.

We successfully completed our first season as Manager / Registrar at ECOC. We thank you, our guests, for being so kind and loving; we feel we had the best guests in all of Chautau-

qua. You made this a very healing time for us. We had many very pleasant surprises, for which we thank God.

Rooms for Week 7 were fully booked by February; the topic, Sacred Spaces, proved quite popular. Then Week 1 filled up; soon all weeks were full except for 4 and 9.

We brought local people to Chautauqua to stay with us for the first time, including a Lutheran minister and her family from Jamestown. The Religion Department used us for new clergy housing. Two rabbis stayed with us, and several retired doctors. Ministers make up the majority of people who choose ECOC as their summer home, along with educators. Many young people and children came with their parents. The sound of children was wonderful.

Many people took advantage of staying over through Monday morning the final weekend of the season. The festive conviviality of the porches ap-

pealed to everyone; our porches were a popular place to gather and the ECOC gained the reputation of being the "Happening Place" in Chautauqua.

Our season was very busy: we did teas and socials, ribbon cuttings, a beautiful commissioning service, an amp scripture reading, potlucks, radio interviews, newspaper interviews, picnics, dinners, and even waited with guests at the Westfield Hospital (nothing severe). We enjoyed our Connections youths; Philip became our official volunteer employee. We supported and attended the weekly "Community in Conversations" program (co-sponsored with the Religion Department); our guests who attended found it very enlightening too.

What a blessing that nothing major went wrong this season; most repairs were handled "in house." During check-in one Saturday, though, a tornado hit Mayville and knocked out our power for several hours; we herded people into the kitchens for safety. Quite an adventure!

The nine weeks went very fast. We felt sad at the "Three Taps of the Gavel" at the Sunday night closing. A summer of memories is now in our hearts where they will safely stay forever. Thank you, ECOC guests!!! ■

Elevator Challenge Match Stuck Between Floors

Robert Boell

As of November 15 the Elevator Challenge Match Campaign puts the elevator three-quarters of the way to its top floor. All gifts to the elevator fund in 2010 will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$100,000 by the challenge issued from Ed and Marge Johnston. \$75,879.80 or 76% has been received thus far. (Phase One of the challenge—a \$50,000 match in 2009—was achieved.)

Many have already given in 2010, others need to be heard from to move the elevator to the top. It was calculated that the average gift from the ECOC community needed to be

between \$600 and \$700. Obviously many cannot manage that much while others certainly can. To be matched, gifts must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2010.

How to contribute? To ensure proper posting and speedy deposit, gifts should be sent to:

ECOC
c/o Robert P. Boell
801 Yale Avenue, #408
Swarthmore, PA 19081-1821

See the Property Committee's article on page 1 for the latest status of the elevator construction project. ■



Philip Martin Nielson (age 16) and Sarah Grace Lee (age 17), Chautauqua Dance School students, were "adopted" by ECOC managers and staff through the "Chautauqua Connections" program. Sarah performed with the Chautauqua Dance Company/North Carolina Dance Theatre Company as well as the Festival Dancers. Philip had a lead role in the *Sleeping Beauty* ballet and was center-stage in the *Cinema Italiano* jazz dance. Both donated autographed ballet shoes to the ECOC.

Board Seeks Applicants

Ann Hoffman

Are YOU the guest who believes in the long-range success of the ECOC? Are YOU the person who would actively promote a respite for clergy and lay people, and a haven for low-cost accommodations on the Chautauqua grounds? The ECOC Board of Directors is always looking for candidates who bring unique skills and energy to the five-year term. Our eleven-member board maintains a balance of five clergy, five lay persons, and

one Shaw family representative. We sincerely attempt to balance gender and church affiliation, as well as search for individuals holding skills that aid in assisting the needs of the board. Our biggest problem right now, however, is finding committed, interested clergy to fulfill our needs.

If you are willing to contribute to an active, working board by attending two annual meetings and communicat-

ing with committees throughout the year by email and telecommunication, the ECOC could use your help. It would be your opportunity to make the welcoming ECOC community an even better gathering place for friendship and fellowship. It would be your opportunity to serve and contribute to an important and necessary Chautauqua institution—the ECOC.

Please consider making an application to the ECOC Board of Directors, whether you are clergy or lay, especially if you feel you have the desire and skills to join us. Your help is needed now.

If you have questions, or you would like to fill out a “Recommendation for the Board” form (for yourself or another), please contact Ann Hoffman at hoffmenz@gmail.com. When you send it, please mark “ECOC Board” as your subject.

Two Join ECOC Board

We welcome two new members to the Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua Board of Directors: Toni Goldfarb and Rev. Ellie Stock. They join existing Board members, Rev. Bill Brockman, Rev. Joe Donovan, Susan Helm, Ann Hoffman, Rev. Jan Hoffman, Ed Johnston, Rick Schaeffer and Rev. Nathan Day Wilson, plus Shaw Family Rep, Elizabeth Dawson. We thank retiring Board members Rev. Bob Boell and Deborah First for their years of faithful service.

Toni Goldfarb



A Chautauquan for 30 years, Toni Goldfarb has worked tirelessly to keep the Institute affordable, including two years spent on the Chautau-

qua Task Force on housing.

Before joining the ECOC Board, Toni served on its Advisory Board for two years. Her goal for the ECOC is “increased visibility as a place of hospitality where people of all backgrounds and interests can live inexpensively, and break bread together. I can think of no better way to create fellowship and form lasting friendships in an increasingly diverse world,” she says.

Toni and her husband Joe own a home on Palestine Avenue, and are active in the Connections program, “adopting” several voice students each summer. Off-season, they live in Old Tappan, NJ, where Toni works as a freelance medical writer and a volunteer teacher of English for new immigrants.

Ellie Stock



The Rev. Elinor Stock and her husband Carleton are co-pastors at Northminster Presbyterian Church, in St. Louis, MO. A clergy couple

for 40 years, they’ve shared ecumenical work throughout their ministry, including church and community consulting in a special ministry with the Ecumenical Institute/Institute of Cultural Affairs. Ellie is involved in faith-based community action, addressing issues of racism, housing, health care, education and poverty through ecumenical/interfaith/secular partnerships.

Ellie and Carleton have three grown children. The family has been coming to Chautauqua since the 1970’s, but last summer was the couple’s first chance to stay at the ECOC; they loved the ecumenical environment and talking with many guests.

Ellie enjoys writing, music, travelling, leading adult education scripture studies, and tutoring first-grade reading.

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua Newsletter is published twice a year, in spring and fall, and mailed to interested guests. It is also available on the ECOC web site at: www.ecoc-chautauqua.org.

Editor and layout: Marcella Klein

To submit articles or photos, or notify us of an address change, email the editor at mklein5@rochester.rr.com.

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC), a not-for-profit corporation with a 503C3 designation, was founded in 2003 to provide low-cost housing for clergy, religious workers and lay people of all faiths.

The mission statement for the ECOC reads: “The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua: a community of religious inclusion and compassion, providing hospitality and affordable accommodations, promoting dialogue, fellowship and growth.”

Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua

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Chautauqua, New York 14722
716-357-3814 (Summer)
716-581-3659 (Winter)
www.ecoc-chautauqua.org

ECOC Calendar

End of Dec.	Registration forms sent
Starting Feb. 1	Confirmations processed
May 27 to June 5	Spring Work Week
June 13-14	Spring Board meeting
June 25	Season begins
August 28	Season ends
Aug. 29-30	Fall Board meeting
Sept. 9-18	Fall Work Week

Our Kitchen Stars ★★

Board member **Nathan Day Wilson** completed a curriculum in philanthropy, and earned a Certificate in Fund Raising Management (CFRM) from the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. His wife **Janice Wilson** is leading the development of a nonprofit that will support Neighborhood Care Points in Swaziland, Africa, to provide food security and combat the HIV and AIDS epidemic there.

Clemette Haskins, a member of the New Pastor's Program Week 2, was honored with a special invitation to return for the program's second session Week 7. Clemette recently completed her M.Div. from the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Rev. Bill Jones, a "Shaw boy" from the 1940's, reunited with friends

after 66 years away. He served 42 years as a Methodist missionary in India and "brought India home with him" through his lovely wife, with whom he lives in Durham, NC.

Walter Singer, Larry Toto, and Bill Morrow formed an impromptu String Trio and entertained guests at Week 8's Tuesday Social, and also performed on Bestor Plaza. **Abe Tannehill** played his bagpipes for guests, too.

Week 7, **Craig Hoffman** played in the trombone section of the CSO. Chautauqua visitors were invited to join the CSO for the evening concert.

Margot and Harry Stoll celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the ECOC during Week 5.

Week 8, **Beth Woolever** volunteered to compost the Westervelt's kitchen scraps. She got special biodegradable bags from the library, and invited guests to collect their food scraps and paper towels. Each day, she took the filled bags to the Chautauqua compost area behind the Farmer's Market.

Mathilda Murphy has now retired from teaching her very popular hand-weaving classes at Chautauqua, after 23 years. Her husband, **Jerry**, was her hard-working assistant.

Bob and Jean Boell were valued guests in Shaw kitchen all summer. Bob was an usher in the amphitheater and Jean sang in the Motet Choir, so they were a great resource on new rules at the amp, events, times, and music not to be missed. ■